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Georgia Southern University Athletics



Football Camp: Eagles Break for Little Eagles

The season opener at West Virginia is less than a month away.

Marc Gignac

Football

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[Little Eagles Field Day photo gallery](#) | [Buy season tickets](#) | [2015 Schedule](#) | [2015 Roster](#) | [Preseason Camp](#)

STATESBORO, Ga. – The Georgia Southern football team took some time away from preseason camp for Little Eagles Field Day Saturday afternoon in Paulson Stadium.

After a 22-period morning workout that went a shade under two hours on the banks of Beautiful Eagle Creek, Georgia Southern loaded the yellow school buses and headed to Paulson Stadium, where over 215 kids were getting limber for some football drills.

The kids were broken up into groups and run through drills at six stations. Parents followed their children from station to station for some golden photo opportunities.

"I love working with kids, especially the younger ones," said junior quarterback [Favian Upshaw](#). "They have so much fun and don't care if they make it or miss it, and then get back in line. I love working these camps. I know these kids look up to us, and we try to be good role models for them and make sure they have fun."

After an hour of drills, Georgia Southern coach [Willie Fritz](#) brought everybody in for a 10-minute talk, featuring senior linebacker [Antwione Williams](#), junior linebacker [Deshawntee Gallon](#) and senior safety [Matt Dobson](#). The key messages were eat right and exercise, do well in school and listen to your parents and teachers.

"Our guys might have more fun than the kids," said Fritz. "It's a chance to get out, cut loose a little bit. I've been doing this for 23 years at different places. It's good to get these younger kids indoctrinated to Georgia Southern football. We want to make this fun because football is a fun sport."

Following the talk, the Eagle seniors and Fritz signed autographs on the 2015 schedule posters for each youngster.

"This is a serious time of year for us trying to get ready for the season, but it's nice to get a break from the meetings and practices to come out and have some

fun with these kids," said Dobson.

Georgia Southern has a night practice slated for Paulson Stadium at 7:45 p.m. Saturday. Dates, times and locations of football practices are subject to change and may be impacted by weather conditions. Practices are open to the public, but any filming, recording or photography is limited to members of the media only.

Georgia Southern won the 2014 Sun Belt title in its first season in the league, finishing 8-0 in the conference and 9-3 overall. The Eagles return 58 lettermen and 13 starters to the 2015 squad, were picked to win the Sun Belt in the league's preseason coaches' poll and are receiving votes in the USA Today Amway Top-25 Coaches Poll.

Fans can purchase 2015 season tickets and select their seats online, by calling 1-800-GSU-WINS or by visiting the ticket office in the Cowart Building adjacent to Paulson Stadium (203 Lanier Drive). Ticket office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Season tickets prices start as low as \$75 for all six games. Season ticket sales have exceeded last year's total and are expected to reach an all-time high.

Preseason Football Practice Schedule

8/8 - 7:45 p.m. - Paulson (night practice)

8/9 - 7:45 p.m. - Paulson (night practice)

8/10 - 8:15 a.m.

8/11 - 8:15 a.m.

8/12 - 8:15 a.m.

8/13 - 8:15 a.m.

8/14 - 8:15 a.m.

8/15 - 9 a.m. (Paulson, Scrimmage, Meet the Eagles)

Hop on the Bus

Join the Georgia Southern Athletic Foundation for its football bus trip Sept. 4-5, and watch the Eagles take on the West Virginia Mountaineers at Milan Puskar Stadium. Click [here for more info and to register online](#).

Upcoming Events

Aug. 13 - [Women's Football Clinic](#) - Ted Smith Family Football Center - 6 p.m. - Ladies will learn Football 101, tour the Ted Smith Family Football Center and participate in field activities. There will also be door prizes, food and beverages.

Aug. 15 - [Meet the Eagles Fan Fest](#) - Paulson Stadium - 9 a.m. - Fans can watch the final football scrimmage of preseason camp at Paulson Stadium. Concessions, the Adidas Store and inflatables for kids will be available. After the scrimmage, at approximately 11 a.m., student-athletes from the football, men's soccer, women's soccer, volleyball and cheer team will sign autographs on the North Concourse.

Aug. 17 - Day 1 - Paulson Stadium - 9 p.m. - Students will fill up the entire student section in Paulson Stadium for Day One to learn our traditions, chants, fight song and alma mater. Coach Fritz and Director of Athletics [Tom Kleinlein](#) will speak at the event.

Aug. 22 - [Erk Russell Classic](#) - Paulson Stadium - 5 p.m. - The fourth annual Erk Russell Classic has North Oconee High School taking on Coffee County at 5 p.m. and Statesboro facing Burke County at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

Georgia Southern Athletics provides up-to-date information on all its sports through its official website, GSEagles.com, through social media channels facebook.com/GSAthletics, twitter.com/GSAthletics, iOS app Georgia Southern Eagles and Android app Eagles GATA. Fans can purchase tickets to Georgia Southern Athletics events by calling 1-800-GSU-WINS or by visiting GSEagles.com.

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